

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 ACDE-00 SSO-00 ERDA-05
CIAE-00 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01
PM-04 PRS-01 SAJ-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00
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R 241605Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5888
INFO SECDEF WASHDC
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS
USMISSION GENEVA
USDEL MBFR VIENNA
USNMR SHAPE
CINC EUR VAHINGEN

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GENEVA: PASS CCD DELEGATION

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PARM, NATO, MBFR, CCD, GW
SUBJECT: DR. FRIEDRICH RUTH NAMED GERMAN DISARMAMENT
COMMISSIONER

1. FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER YESTERDAY PRESENTED DR.
FRIEDRICH RUTH WITH THE OFFICIAL DOCUMENT NAMING HIM
"COMMISSIONER OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC FOR DISARMAMENT
QUESTIONS AND ARMS CONTROL." RUTH ALSO RECEIVED THE
RANK OF AMBASSADOR.

2. RUTH'S MBFR ASSISTANT GESCHER INFORMED US TODAY
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THAT THE NEW DISARMAMENT COMMISSIONER WAS NOW PREPARING
THE GROUNDWORK FOR HIS VISIT TO WASHINGTON IN MARCH.
GESCHER SAID THE FRG EMBASSY WOULD BE IN TOUCH WITH
DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS TO ARRANGE AN APPROPRIATE
SCHEDULE.

3. COMMENT: DR. RUTH HAS BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH ARMS

CONTROL AND DISARMAMENT AFFAIRS SINCE 1970, WITH MBFR HIS AREA OF PARTICULAR EXPERTISE. RUTH KNOWS THESE NEGOTIATIONS INSIDE OUT AND HAS PLAYED A VERY ACTIVE ROLE IN BONN IN PREPARING FRG INPUTS TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ALLIANCE POSITION. WE FOUND THAT RUTH COULD SPEAK AUTHORITATIVELY ABOUT THE GERMAN MBFR POSITION WHILE A "WORKING LEVEL" OFFICIAL. THE CONFIDENCE WHICH GENSCHER HAS IN HIS JUDGMENT HAS NOW BEEN CLEARLY DEMONSTRATED BY HIS PROMOTION TO DISARMAMENT COMMISSIONER.

4. SINCE RUTH HAS CONCENTRATED ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY ON MBFR MATTERS FOR THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS, WE DO NOT KNOW HIS VIEWS ON THE OTHER ARMS CONTROL ISSUES FOR WHICH HE NOW ASSUMES RESPONSIBILITY. WHILE RUTH IS WELL KNOWN TO MANY WASHINGTON OFFICIALS FROM PAST TRIPS WITH FORMER DISARMAMENT COMMISSIONER ROTH, WE ANTICIPATE HE WILL WISH TO ESTABLISH A CLOSE AND COOPERATIVE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE NEW SENIOR OFFICIALS IN THE AMERICAN ARMS CONTROL COMMUNITY. WE BELIEVE RUTH'S FIRST TRIP TO WASHINGTON AS COMMISSIONER WILL BE PRINCIPALLY TO EXPLORE AMERICAN THINKING IN THE ARMS CONTROL FIELD.
STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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